

HEARST COAL ROAD  
CASES HEARD BY  
INTERSTATE BODYShearn Says Supreme  
Court Rules in New  
Yorker's Favor.BITUMINOUS DECISION  
Basis of Counsel's Argument  
Against Anthracite  
Companies.

Before the Interstate Commerce Commission the Hearst cases against the anthracite railroads are being rearranged today, on the initiative of the commission, for the purpose of applying to them the principles laid down by the Supreme Court a few days ago in the famous and sweeping decision in the case of the Chesapeake and Ohio road's rates on contract coal to New Haven.

Clarence J. Shearn, attorney for Hearst, took the position that the Supreme Court had won the case for Mr. Hearst when it handed down its decision in the bituminous case involving the West Virginia fields.

In that case the court held that the railroad company could not sell its own coal and, by shading its tariff rate on anthracite, enable itself to undersell other and competing coal producers who had no such relations with carriers, and must pay the full rate for carriage.

The Supreme Court took the position that this rule applied, whether the railroad company directly or indirectly, through a coal company which it controlled, carried on the transaction. The effect was the same, and the effect was the thing to be considered. The Supreme Court went so far as to indicate the opinion that railroad companies ought not to engage in other business than that of carriage.

Very similar points were raised in the Hearst cases. The anthracite road is restricted to haul coal to seaboard and New England points for subsidiary companies which they controlled or were in alliance with. These contracts were attacked as of a character calculated to prejudice the independent miner and shipper. The Supreme Court, in its decision in the Chesapeake and Ohio case, the commission called on the attorneys for further argument.

Mr. Shearn appeared for Hearst, while for the railroads appeared G. F. Brownell, of the Erie, and W. P. Forest, of the Central Railroad of New Jersey. Joseph D. Campbell, of the Reading; Francis L. Gowen, of the Lehigh Valley; W. S. J. J. of the Lackawanna, and J. B. Kerr, of the Ontario and Western. Mr. Shearn was first heard, and spoke at much length, applying the Chesapeake and Ohio decision to the case at bar. Commissioners Knapp, Clements, Frost and Coker sat.

In the Chesapeake and Ohio case the railroad urged that it sustained the loss, not as carrier, but as owner of the coal. The court held that the railroad had no business occupying the position of both carrier and merchant; and this, Mr. Shearn argued, in substance, was the position of the anthracite roads in the present hearing.

The separate corporate entities of the railroad and the coal companies was urged as a reason why the Chesapeake and Ohio contracts, made through a nominally separate coal company, were legal. But the Supreme Court crushed all this aside and insisted on considering the substance of the transaction. It held that the railroad could not indirectly what it could not do directly. The same rule applied to the anthracite cases, Mr. Shearn said, would win them for Mr. Hearst.

Mr. Shearn was followed by representatives of the railroad companies. It was not expected this afternoon that the arguments would be concluded today.

CITY MUST PAY GRADE  
CROSSING DAMAGES

A bill introduced in the House today by Representative Babcock providing for the payment of damages on account of grade crossings due to the elimination of grade crossings on the line of the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad Company stipulates that damages to adjacent property shall be borne by the District of Columbia appraisement by a committee of three.

In the appraisement of damages the commission shall take into consideration the benefits accruing to the property from the elimination of the grade crossings and the construction of the new union station.

Any owner of damaged property shall have the right to petition for damages within sixty days after the date of the first meeting of the commission.

## THE WEATHER REPORT.

The disturbance central over the west Wednesday morning has developed an energy and now over the east Gulf States.

Rain continues in the Gulf and South Atlantic States and has extended northward into the Ohio valley and southwestern Virginia. In the Gulf States rain has now been falling over forty-eight hours; as a result the rivers are rapidly approaching danger stages.

The Gulf depression will move northward during the next thirty-six hours and cause general rain tonight over practically the whole of the Washington overcast district, and rain Friday in the over lake region and the middle Atlantic States.

The temperature changes will be unimportant.

TEMPERATURE.

8 a. m. .... 48

2 p. m. .... 49

8 p. m. .... 48

THE SUN.

Sun rises today ..... 6:20

Sun sets tomorrow ..... 5:51

TIDE TABLE.

Low tide today ..... 5:00 p. m.

High tide today ..... 10:38 p. m.

Low tide tomorrow ..... 5:49 a. m.

High tide tomorrow ..... 11:35 a. m.

DR. LUTHER B. WILSON

PRESIDING BISHOP  
At the Baltimore Conference.SAYS ROOSEVELT  
IS LIKE NEHEMIAHPastor Thus Characterizes  
President at Conference.

## FAREWELL ADDRESS HEARD

Two Presiding Elders in Baltimore Dis-  
trict Review Work at Close  
of Their Terms.

BALTIMORE, March 29.—The 122d session of the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church began yesterday at Madison Avenue Church, with Bishop Luther B. Wilson presiding, and will continue daily for a week.

The most important feature of the opening session was the reading of the farewell letters of the Rev. Dr. C. Herbert Richardson and the Rev. Dr. H. S. France, the two presiding elders of the conference, whose terms of six years have been completed, and who will now be assigned to pastorates.

Dr. Richardson's address was punctuated with much humor and he outlined the past six years of his service in a most interesting and entertaining way. Dr. France has been the presiding elder of the First Baltimore district and in his farewell address included a report of what had been accomplished during his tenure of office. Much of this data covered the raising of church debts.

In the afternoon Dr. J. T. McFarland, corresponding secretary of the Sunday School Union and editor of several church papers, made an address in which he used the Bible as his text. During his discourse Dr. McFarland likened President Roosevelt to Nehemiah, saying:

"When Nehemiah found the nobles were oppressing and enslaving the poor people, he figuratively bumped their heads together. And so is Roosevelt, the modern Nehemiah, bumping the small financiers who are ruining the working people. There is an instance of the lesson of the Bible as applied to our modern conditions."

## Cumberland Conference

Adjourns Until Tomorrow

CUMBERLAND, Md., March 29.—The business session of the Baltimore conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, which convened yesterday, adjourned at noon today until tomorrow morning. The lectures this afternoon and the sermon tonight will be by Bishop Candler, of Atlanta, Ga., who has taken charge, owing to the illness of Bishop Wilson. Over 300 delegates are present. The session today was devoted to routine work.

The next conference will probably be held at Harrisonburg, Va.

## GOVERNOR PATTISON

CONTINUES TO IMPROVE

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 29.—Continued improvement is noticed in the condition of Governor Pattison and reports given out from the executive mansion are more hopeful.

This morning it was stated that he had passed a very quiet night and slept most of the time.

## GERMAN SUICIDE GROWS,

CHIEFLY AMONG WOMEN

BERLIN, March 29.—Figures just made public by the statistical department show that there has been a steady increase in the number of suicides throughout Germany in the last few years. In 1904, there were 11,836 suicides; in 1905 this increased to 12,238, and in 1906 there were 12,738 suicides. The statistics show that the increase has for the most part been among women.

## AMERICAN CRIMINALS ARE

PAROLED BY ALFONSO

MADRID, Spain, March 29.—King Alfonso has pardoned the two American miners, Arthur Arnoldson and John Stoner, who were sentenced in 1888 to serve twenty years at hard labor in the Certes pen for killing two Spaniards at Bilbao in a quarrel over the Spanish-American war.

Subscriptions are now being taken at Bilbao to supply the men with money.

## WIFE MADE HIM SLEEP

IN BARN WITH CATTLE

OMAHA, Neb., March 29.—William O. Garber, of Dewitt, Iowa, formerly of Morrison, Ill., has sued for divorce on the ground that his wife made him sleep with cattle, beat him and drove him from home with a revolver.

Expert Packers.

Merchants' Transfer & Storage Co.—Adv.

TODAY TO DECIDE  
SCOPE OF STRIKEIf Miners Accept Robbins' Offer for Penn-  
sylvania Only Illinois, Ohio and Indi-  
ana Fields Will Close Monday.

## Strike in Nutshell.

7,000,000 tons of coal have been stored by operators. Stockades have been erected around collieries in Pennsylvania. Miners' strike fund by April 1 will be \$6,000,000. Number of persons depending on miners for bread who would be affected by strike, 3,000,000. Strike will call out 550,000 men, if it includes both hard and soft coal districts. Of this number 250,000 will be soft coal miners. Losses in coal strike of 1902: Miners in wages, \$28,930,000. Other workers in mines, \$6,457,000. Mine operators, \$52,200,000. Anthracite business region, \$10,280,000. Outside business men, \$9,790,000. Damages to mines and machinery, \$7,200,000. Total loss, \$149,572,000. Strike lasted twenty-six weeks.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 29.—The United Mine Workers, in a session of its own, this morning, took up the question of accepting the proposition of F. L. Robbins to pay the 1903 scale, if allowed to operate the western Pennsylvania mines of the Pittsburgh Coal Company. Robbins is the only big operator who has agreed to this advance. The miners' action is preliminary to the declaration of a strike, and will determine whether the strike is to be confined to Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois coal fields, or include all the bituminous fields of the country.

"The finish will come today," said J. H. Winder, chairman of the operators, this morning.

Hammond Likely Loser. This statement is to be modified by the slight possibility indicated by the proposition of C. C. Hammond, an Illinois operator, that a commission be named by the miners to examine the coal situation, Hammond and other speakers laid stress on the fact that the miners had based their demands for higher wages on the allegation that the operators are making big profits. The answer of President Mitchell to Hammond, attacking the railroads as owning the coal mines, is not taken as a favorable omen that the miners will seriously consider the Hammond proposition.

There is little room to doubt that the strike will begin on Monday. "No man can prophesy with any degree of certainty as to how it will end. Only one thing is certain, the whole labor movement of the country will back up the miners." Some believe that the strike will be a supreme test for John Mitchell. They say he will fall all the leader of the miners if the strike fails. It is true that Mitchell's position is surrounded by difficulties and dangers, but it does not follow that he will be held responsible for all of the ill that befalls the miners, no more than it follows that the strike will be a failure because of the conditions surrounding it.

Standing by Leaders. This is no time for union labor to question the policies of the miners' leaders. While they stick to their posts fighting, organized labor will back up them. Mitchell's speech, which was the feature of yesterday afternoon's session, charged that many roads favor certain coal shipping companies. The public.

BRISTOL FINALLY WINS  
AFTER A LONG FIGHTPresident Decides to Send in His Name  
for U. S. District Attorney  
of Oregon.

President Roosevelt announced this morning that he would send to the Senate the nomination of W. C. Bristol to be United States district attorney for Oregon.

This finally settles the bitter fight which has been made against Mr. Bristol. His nomination was sent to the Senate a short while before Christmas, but charges of unprofessional conduct were filed against him by Senator Fulton on behalf of certain Oregonians, and the President had the nomination withdrawn.

The Department of Justice was ordered to make a full investigation. After examining the facts in the case the Attorney General decided that inasmuch as the alleged unprofessional conduct of Mr. Bristol occurred prior to his nomination that he would let the Oregon Bar Association pass upon the matter. It appeared, however, that the bar association had made no request to be permitted to investigate the charges, and that body returned the papers to the Department of Justice.

After the Oregon Bar Association refused to handle the case, Senator Fulton and Mr. Henry, who are not the best of friends by any means, called daily at the White House and Department of Justice.

The President and the Attorney General made a careful investigation of the charges against Mr. Bristol, and decided that they were not well founded.

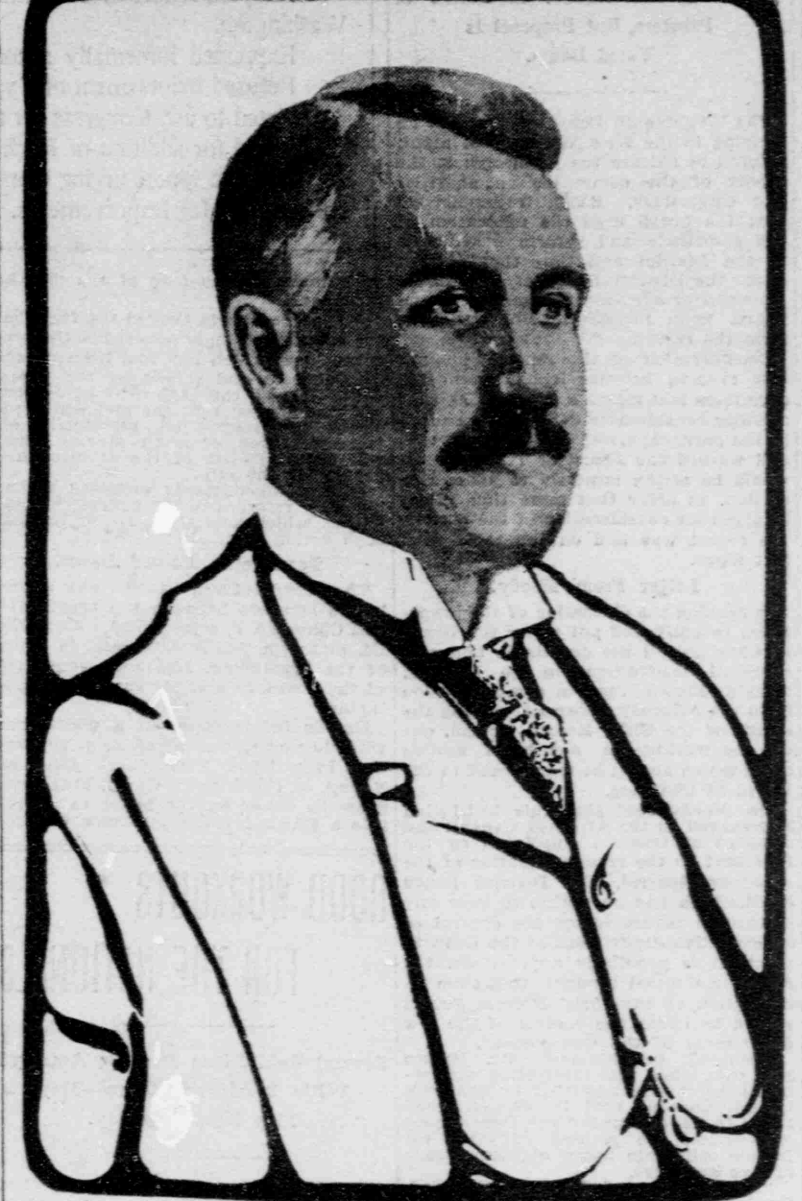
## THREE NEW LIFE SAVING

STATIONS ON PACIFIC

The Senate today passed a bill appropriating \$40,000 for the estimate of three life saving stations and the building of a telephone line from the coast of Washington, between Gray's Harbor and Cape Flattery, also requiring white lights on towers in navigable straits and on the Great Lakes.

COOK COUNTY SHERIFF DEAD.

CHICAGO, Ill., March 29.—Thomas E. Barrett, sheriff of Cook county, died today after a lingering illness due to cancer.

STANDS OUT FOR MINERS' DEMANDS  
AGAINST FELLOW COAL OPERATORSF. L. ROBBINS,  
President of Pittsburgh Coal Company, Who Has Offered Union Increase  
in Wages.Clean Sweep of Reform  
For District SchoolsHouse Subcommittee Will Probably Make  
Radical Changes in System for Economy  
to Get Money for Teachers' Pay.

A sweeping and thorough reform of the public school system of the District of Columbia will be provided for in the bill which will be framed by the school subcommittee of the House District Committee.

This reform will be the result of the firm conviction of the subcommittee that, under any circumstances, the administration of the local school system can be made more economical, and that, without retrenchment in administrative expenses, the school teachers will not secure higher salaries at the hands of Congress. As it is the great desire of those interested in the schools to give the teachers more pay, the inability to grant that without economy would alone be sufficient to insure changes in the system.

Less Supervision. One phase of school administration which will receive careful consideration at the hands of the subcommittee is the matter of supervision, and it seems safe at this time to assume that the bill will carry a provision cutting down the number of the present supervision corps.

Another feature which will be changed in the bill is the custom that now prevails of a teacher in the primary grade teaching her flock for three hours and then handing over the school building to another teacher with another flock. It is thought that one teacher should teach both classes of children, as it seems to some friends of the school that it is unreasonable to expect a teacher to support herself on merely three hours' work a day. Such a change in the bill would reduce by nearly one-half the number of teachers in the primary grades. This

reduction would be a long step toward economy in administration. Similar changes will be made in other parts of the system—in fact, in every part where alteration for economy is possible.

But the progress of this bill, preparation of which will be started by the subcommittee in the next few days, may be impeded. Its friends have reason to say, to fear that Mr. Babcock, chairman of the full District Committee, is opposed to the measure.

Friends of the schools today make the claim that even this possible opposition of the chairman of the committee will not prevent a majority of the committee deciding to report favorably the bill to the House for passage.

How Committee Stands. Although no indisputable poll of the committee can be secured at the present time, it is thought this afternoon that the following members will vote to report to the House the subcommittee bill: Morrell, Greene, Campbell, Olcott, Sims, Pou, McLain, Kline, Shackelford, and Taylor. Siemp is also counted as possibly in this group.

In arguing that the bill, although threatened by a stormy course, will eventually get through the House, friends claim that such a measure is favored by the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House, and a majority of the House. These facts, they think, will outweigh any possible opposition from Mr. Babcock.

On the other hand, there is a small contingent in the House which believes that a bill providing only for increases of teachers' salaries and not touching the school system would pass the House. One Congressman said today that he would introduce such a bill if the subcommittee reports a bill changing the school system.

The trial of Charles K. Metcalf, formerly a policeman attached to the Tenth precinct, who is indicted for forgery, was brought to an abrupt termination in Criminal Court No. 1, today by the withdrawal of F. S. Keys from further connection with the case.

After a jury had been impaneled, Judge Gould asked permission of the court to withdraw because of a misunderstanding between him and his client. At this stage of the proceedings Mr. Metcalf addressed the court, stating that he had employed Mr. Keys as his counsel, and promised to pay him for his services. He, however, had failed to receive money which he expected and Mr. Keys declined to continue as his counsel. Justice Gould after hearing the statement of Mr. Keys and his client, permitted the former to withdraw and postponed the trial to a later day. The court then appointed Attorneys Emory H. Hogley and Henry I. Quinn to represent Mr. Metcalf, and stated he would allow them reasonable time to prepare for the defense.

Times Want Ads. Bring Results.

WHOLE FAMILY IS  
OVERCOME BY GAS  
AND FATHER DIESForeigners Were Not  
Used to American  
Ways.

## TURNED ON WRONG JET

Daughter Finds Unconscious  
Forms of Parents and  
Sisters.

PHILADELPHIA, March 28.—An entire family of foreigners, consisting of Shaye Weisbein, aged fifty-four years, the father; Susanna Weisbein, aged forty-eight years, the mother, and three daughters, Cecelia, twenty-three years, Sarah, twenty-one years, and Anna, eighteen years, were found overcome by gas this morning in their apartments on South street, above Seventh. Ignorance of the use of gas is said to have caused this wholesale asphyxiation.

## Had Just Arrived.

Weisbein, his wife, and one daughter, Anna, only arrived in this country on Tuesday last from Austria, having been brought to this country by their other three daughters, Clara, Cecelia, and Sarah, who had been here for several years.

Mrs. Weisbein and her daughter Anna were given a rear room in which was a double gas burner for lighting and heating purposes.

In their ignorance of the workings of the burners they turned on the wrong jet allowing the gas to flow into their room. Meeting at the institution it was found that the mother and daughter had been discovered by the eldest daughter, Clara, who had fortunately gone to the home of relative to sleep.

## Were Found by Daughter.

She called at the South street house to arrange for her parents and found them unconscious. Becoming hysterical, Miss Weisbein rushed from the house, calling her hair and shrieking for help. Several policemen rushed into the house and carried the unconscious forms into the street, where they were bundled into one patrol wagon and hurried to the hospital. Arriving at the institution it was found that Weisbein was dead and his body was taken to the morgue. The mother and three daughters are still unconscious and heroic measures have been adopted by the physicians in an effort to save their lives.

There is little hope of saving the lives of Mrs. Weisbein and her daughters Cecelia and Sarah. Anna, whose condition is not so serious has a chance for her life although she is still unconscious.

BOTH SIDES TO BE HEARD  
ON AUTO SPEED MEASURE

James Stoddard, representing the Automobile Club of Washington, and Representatives Sims and Gillett will be given a hearing tomorrow morning before the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia to discuss the automobile speed regulation bill.

## JOHN G. MCROREY BUYS

7TH STREET PROPERTY

John G. McCrorey has bought from George E. Hamilton and others, trustees, the property at 414 Seventh street northwest. The deed of conveyance states \$50,000 as the consideration for the transfer.

## IRON TRADE HELD IN

CHECK BY COAL STRIKE

NEW YORK, March 29.—The Iron Age says today:

The uncertainty with regard to the soft coal labor situation in the soft coal fields has been the principal factor affecting the pig iron markets of the country. The consumption is on so enormous a scale and is crowding the full make so closely that even a moderately heavy restriction would be highly embarrassing. Deliveries of crude and finished iron and steel are proceeding at a record rate. There is a steady flow of good contracts coming out for the structural mills. The plate trade is very quiet and there is some uneasiness in the price of sheets. The cast iron pipe industry is facing an enormous demand.

## DROWNING MAN DRAGS

HEROIC DOG WITH HIM

NEW YORK, March 29.—If Edward Bewy, thirty years old, an employee of the Hudson county almshouse, had displayed the presence of mind shown by a St. Bernard dog which accompanied him to the Shinnecock reservoir on the Neck, the man would have been drowned. His body was taken from the reservoir after he had been clinging to the neck of the dog, which had tried to rescue him and also was drowned.

Bewy was sent to make repairs at the reservoir, and the dog accompanied him. The man slipped and fell into the water. The dog jumped after him and, grabbing his coat collar, tried to swim back to shore. Instead of letting the animal tow him to safety Bewy lost his head and grabbed it about the neck. So tight was his hold that the dog was drawn under.

## TWO FALSE ALARMS TURNED IN.

Someone evidently solicitous of seeing the Fire Department make a run, turned in a false alarm from box 531, at First and N streets southeast, shortly after 11 o'clock last night. The firemen had scarcely returned to their quarters when a false alarm was struck from box 54, at Third and L streets southeast.

## Plenty of Laths.

Libbey Co., 6th and N. Y. Ave.—Adv.